4710E

Drinking Water...Information for Drinking-Water System Owners and Operators Of Non-Municipal Year-Round Residential Systems...

This fact sheet may apply to drinking water systems serving private subdivisions, condominium or townhouse complexes, apartment buildings, mobile home parks, year-round cottage developments and year round trailer parks or campgrounds.

As an owner/operator of a Non-Municipal Year-Round Drinking-Water System, there are a number of requirements you must meet in order to comply with Ontario's *Drinking-Water Systems Regulation* (O. Reg. 170/03).

The information in this fact sheet will help you determine if your system is required to sample, test and treat your water according to the *Drinking-Water Systems Regulation*. If these requirements apply to you, this fact sheet will summarize steps you must take to meet your responsibilities under the regulation.

Definition of a Non-Municipal Year-Round Residential System is as follows:

- A drinking water system that serves 6 or more private residences, or a trailer park or campground that has 6 or more sites with water hook-up.
- The system is not a seasonal system.
- The drinking water system is not owned by a municipality.

Connected Systems:

If your non-municipal year-round residential drinking water system is connected to and obtains its water from another drinking-water system that meets the treatment and testing requirements of O.Reg. 170/03, then you may be exempt from the requirement to provide treatment and may only have limited testing requirements. Refer to section 6 of the *Drinking-Water Systems Regulation* for more information on the action you must take.

Non-Municipal Year-Round Residential Systems that must meet the testing and treatment requirements

You should follow the steps summarized on pages 3 and 4. You should also refer to a more detailed kit that is available at http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/gp/4427e.pdf or by calling 1-800-565-4923.

Systems in this category were required to start sampling and testing water **by June 1, 2003.** In addition, systems in this category must install treatment equipment by December 31, 2004 for surface water sources, and December 31, 2005 for groundwater sources. The actions you must take to meet your responsibilities under the *Drinking-Water Systems Regulation* are summarized on pages 3 and 4.

If your system serves a designated facility on site, owners and operators of drinking water systems serving these facilities were required to begin testing June 1, 2003. Owners and operators of designated facilities except for children's camps and seniors' residences not operated for commercial purposes have been responsible for treating their water since July 1, 2003. Children's camps and seniors' residences not operated for commercial purposes were required to comply with the treatment requirements of the *Drinking-Water Systems Regulation* as of July 1, 2004. For more details on these requirements, refer to the Children Camp's Fact Sheet and the Not-for-Profit Seniors' Residence Fact Sheet.

Please remember that this fact sheet is provided for guidance only. For a complete understanding of your responsibilities as a drinking-water system owner you must refer directly to the Drinking-Water Systems Regulation. For the most up-to-date fact sheets, a kit explaining your responsibilities in more detail and for copies of the regulation, check the Ministry of the Environment's website at www.ene.gov.on.ca or call the Public Information Centre at 1-800-565-4923.

Ontario

Maintaining your well

If your source of water is groundwater, you must also properly maintain your well to protect the ground water supply.

Well owners are responsible for any wells on their property, so it is important that you understand the rules and what you can do to make sure your well is properly constructed and maintained. *Ontario's Wells Regulation* (O.Reg.903 under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*) as amended in August 2003, sets out new standards for well construction, location and abandonment that must be followed by well owners and the contractors they hire to construct, repair or seal your well.

To learn more about these standards, please refer to the Ministry's website www.ene.gov.on.ca for fact sheets on:

- water well construction
- the protection of water quality in drilled wells
- the protection of water quality in bored or dug wells
- the protection of water quality in jetted and driven point wells

However, to be certain your well is in compliance, you should review *Ontario's Wells Regulation.* This can be viewed on the Ministry of the Environment web site at http://www.ene.gov.on.ca You can obtain a print copy by calling the ministry's Public Information Centre at 1-800-565-4923. You may also want to consider hiring a licensed well contractor to conduct an inspection.